

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The office action of May 16, 2006 has been carefully reviewed and these remarks are responsive thereto. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested. Claims 1-5, 9-17, and 21-30 remain in this application. Claims 6-8 and 18-20 were previously canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 1-5, 9-17, and 21-30 stand rejected on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-4 of U.S. patent no. 6,789,229. Notwithstanding the merits of the rejection, Applicants submit a Terminal Disclaimer herewith.

With the filing of the Terminal Disclaimer, all rejections are deemed moot. Reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

If any fees are required or if an overpayment is made, the Commissioner is authorized to debit or credit our Deposit Account No. 19-0733, accordingly.

All rejections having been addressed, applicants respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully solicit prompt notification of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Dated: July 18, 2006

By: /Gary D. Fedorochko/
Gary D. Fedorochko
Registration No. 35,509

1001 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001-4597
Tel: (202) 824-3000
Fax: (202) 824-3001
GDF:lab